

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4 to 11, 14 to 17 and 21 to 28 are pending.
Claims 11, 14 to 17 and 21 to 25 are allowed and claims 6 and 7 are objected to. Claim 27 and 28 are new.

1. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. This claim has been amended and claims 27 and 28 have been added to clarify what is meant by "built in one of a case-negative design, a case-positive design and a case-neutral design".

Reconsideration of this rejection is requested.

2. Claims 1, 4, 5, 8 to 10 and 26 are provisionally rejected on the grounds of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 3, 5 and 8 to 11 of co-pending application Serial No. 10/350,384. The co-pending application, which is assigned to the assignee of the present application, has been expressly abandoned. A copy of the Express Abandonment Under 37 CFR 1.138 filed December 19, 2006 and the Auto-Reply Facsimile Transmission confirmation accompanies this amendment. As such, the co-pending application no longer presents an impediment to the presently pending claims.

Reconsideration of this rejection is requested.

3. It is acknowledged that claims 11, 14 to 17 and 21 to 25 are allowed.

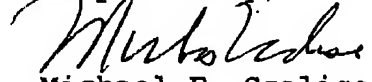
4. Claims 6 and 7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. However, the basis for rejecting independent claim 1 has been removed by abandonment of co-pending application Serial No. 10/350,384.

Reconsideration of this objection is requested.

5. The prior art of record not relied upon has been reviewed, but it is not considered more pertinent to the pending claims than the cited prior art.

It is believed that claims 1, 4 to 11, 14 to 17 and 21 to 28 are now in condition for allowance. Notice of Allowance is requested.

Respectfully,


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